

TRANSMITTAL # 12

MEMORANDUM

April 8, 2009

TO: Workforce Development Council

FROM: Roger B. Madsen, Director

Roger B Madsen

SUBJECT: Labor Market / Work Force Information

ACTION REQUESTED: Endorse 2009-2010 Workforce Information Grant/Plan

BACKGROUND:

Workforce Information Grant 2009/2010 Products and Tools

The Idaho Department of Labor is seeking endorsement from the council to apply for the 2009-2010 Workforce Information Grant and will engage in research pursuant to the Training and Employment Guidance Letter published by the U.S. Department of Labor. Please see attached document for details on this grant.

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Attachment

Idaho Work Force Information Grant

Abstract of Products and Services

DRAFT - 2009/2010

The proposed plan is designed to fulfill the workforce information needs described below, which include:

- Developing work force information and economic analyses to support regional economic development initiatives;
- Participating in economic and workforce activities designed to identify regional assets, exploit strengths and opportunities, and address weaknesses;
- Helping economic development project teams address gaps identified in their assessments and participate as catalysts in the development of implementation strategies;
- Helping to develop integrated economic development strategies unifying work force and economic development systems and connecting to other public and private entities; and
- Integrating work force information and economic data into user-friendly and accessible tools, information, and products for use by workforce professionals in providing career guidance for students, adults, and workers of all ages to use in making career decisions.

The Work force Information Core Deliverables are outlined in the following narrative:

❖ Populate America's Work Force Information Database

Idaho's Work Force Information Database can be accessed via the department's internet delivery system for labor market information. The new department hosted and developed delivery system is now fully available and operational.

Idaho's database is populated with tables required by the Analyst Resource Center workgroup and is updated throughout the year with weekly, monthly and quarterly data as it becomes available. All core tables are uploaded, current and listed below:

- CES--Current Employment Statistics
- LAUS--Local Area Unemployment Statistics
- Income
- Idaho Long-term Industry Projections
- Sub-state Long-term Industry Projections
- Idaho Long-term Occupational Projections
- Sub-state Long-term Occupational Projections
- Idaho Short-term Industry Projections

- Idaho Short-term Occupational Projections
- Input/Output Matrix
- Occupational and Employment Statistics
- Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
- Professional Licensing Information
- Population Data

❖ **Produce and Disseminate Industry and Occupational Employment Projections**

Using methodology, software and guidelines from the Projections Workgroup & Projections Managing Partnership, Idaho will produce, disseminate and/or submit:

- Sub-state long-term 2008-2018 (biennial) industry employment projections;
- Sub-state long-term 2008-2018 (biennial) occupational employment projections;
- State-level short-term 2008-2010 (annual) industry employment projections;
- State-level short-term 2008-2010 (annual) occupational employment projections;
- Data for public dissemination pursuant to Projections Workgroup & Projections Managing Partnership procedures and associated applications.

❖ **Provide Employment, Occupational and Career Information Products**

- **Maintain and Enhance Idaho's newly developed Labor Market Information Web Site ~** Idaho will continue to maintain and use this data and research dissemination tool as its primary venue for distributing labor market information.
- **Projections Data Dissemination ~** Idaho will develop and disseminate data that synthesizes occupational employment data with long-term projections data. This product will display the fastest growing, most proliferate and most abundant occupations, by educational/training category. Idaho will also publish its annual Hot Jobs publication which combines the fastest growing, most abundant and highest paid jobs. Projections in their entirety are published via the Idaho's Work Force Information database and projections web page for labor market information.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Publication and SOC/OES Glossary ~** Idaho will continue to maintain and publish Occupational Employment Statistics - our top requested product which includes both wages and employment estimates at the state and sub-state level. Idaho is currently assessing the format of its annual wage publication and will determine the most effective form of dissemination. At a minimum, the publication will be accessible via Idaho's labor market information Web site.

- **LED Program** ~ The department has partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau's Local Employment Dynamics program, an innovative collaboration between state partners and the U.S. Census Bureau. This partnership works to fill critical data gaps and provide economic indicators and information to participating states, enhancing the decision-making process for state and local authorities. As part of the agenda, various administrative record files (e.g., unemployment insurance wage files and Quarterly Census and Employment Wage data) are sent to the U.S. Census Bureau, after which each state is provided with Quarterly Workforce Indicators data. The receipt of this data marks the beginning of a unique partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau, providing the Idaho Department of Labor and the state with a valuable resource for research and publication opportunities.
- **Economic Multiplier Application – Economic Modeling Specialists Inc (EMSI)** ~ The Idaho Department of Labor will continue to utilize the EMSI application that integrates census and labor data, along with input/output models specifically designed for Idaho and its sub-state regions. This new product allows staff to research and answer questions on a near real-time basis concerning the impact on occupations, industry and other economic factors from forecasted economic expansions and contractions. The strength of the EMSI product is that it uses data from federal sources to estimate confidential cells allowing for more data available to the public.
- **Monthly Newsletter** ~ The department continues to publish a monthly newsletter that diffuses local area labor market information into six work force regions. A hard copy is also available online at Idaho's labor market information Web site. This effort is designed to cull data from the programs and applications previously mentioned and deliver regional labor market information specific to the needs of our local partners and customers.
- **Education & Training Pay** ~ Idaho will develop its annual *Does Education & Training Pay* publication, which combines occupational and employment statistics with education codes developed by Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Current Population Survey.
- **Training** ~ Idaho's regional economists provide one-on-one instruction, group classes and information via e-mail messages to the department's employment consultants as well as those located within local colleges and high schools, economic development organizations and work force partner agencies, and in the process, keep these people abreast of national and local labor market trends. We will pursue training opportunities for staff in *geographic information systems*, online analytical processing, data cube development, estimate delivery systems, long and short-term projections and skills-based employment projections on an "as needed" basis pending the availability of funding and resources.
- **Employer Database** ~ Idaho will continue to use the *Info USA* Directory sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration..
- **Fringe Benefit Survey (Biennial)** ~ Idaho will use the revamped survey that allows for direct comparisons with Washington and Oregon. This effort will begin in the spring of 2009 and culminate with the final publications and dissemination to be completed in the summer/fall of 2009.

- **Underemployment Metric** ~ This new innovative approach automates department-wide data to produce semi-annual county underemployment rates by county. We will continue to enhance this metric as the data become available.
- **Final Economic Report** ~ A comprehensive compilation of the department's economic research effort will be compiled for the 2010 legislative session and subsequently disseminated for public consumption.
- **Potential Collaborations and Requests** – The following list is a summary of potential research collaborations and ad-hoc data and research requests:
 - Local and Regional Research
 - Industry and Career Cluster Research
 - Emerging Industries and Occupations, Education and Skills
 - Marketing and Training Materials and Equipment